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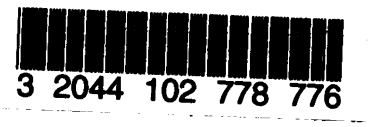
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GERMAN EXERCISE BOOK

BY

M. BLAKEMORE EVANS

AND

EDUARD PROKOSCH

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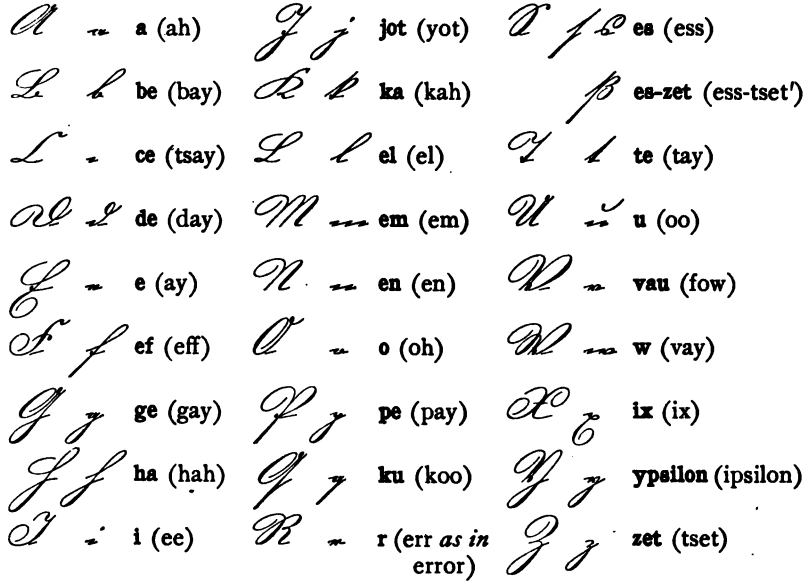
GRAMMATICAL HINTS

GERMAN SCRIPT



WORD-ORDER

I. Normal Order.

Subject	Verb	Object: Indirect	Object: Direct	Adverbs of: Time	Adverbs of: Place	Adverbs of: Manner	Predicate: Adjective or Noun	Participle	Infinitive
Der Frühling	iſt			endlich	ins Land			gekommen.	
Der Krieg	hatte	den armen Menſchen	alles					geraubt.	
Dieſes Haus	wird					ſicher	eine Zierde der Stadt		ſein.

II. Inverted Order.

One Object or Adverb	Verb	Subject	(Rest as in Normal Order)
Endlich	iſt	der Frühling	ins Land gekommen.
Alles	hatte	der Krieg	den armen Menſchen geraubt.
Sicher	wird	dieſes Haus	eine Zierde der Stadt ſein.

III. DEPENDENT ORDER.

	CONJUNCTION	SUBJECT	OBJECT AND ADVERB	PREDICATE ADJECTIVE OR NOUN	PARTICIPLE	INFINITIVE	VERB
(Wir wiſſen),	daß	die Erde		eine Kugel			iſt.
(Ich wünſchte),	daß	du	dieſes Bild einmal		geſehen		hätteſt.

But

a. Ich wünſchte, du **hätteſt** dieſes Bild einmal geſehen.

b. **Wäre** er hier, ſo würde er uns helfen.

c. Bevor **ihm die Leute** hatten **helfen können**, war er untergegangen.

The coördinating conjunctions

aber allein ſondern
und oder
denn

do not in any way affect the word-order.

GENDER

Feminine are all nouns ending in ei, erei, heit, keit, in, ſchaft, ung, or the foreign suffixes age, ie, (t)ion, ik.

Neuter are all diminutives in **chen** and **lein** regardless of the natural or the grammatical gender of their primitives.

Compounds take the gender of the last component part.

DECLENSION OF NOUNS

I. SINGULAR.

1. *All* masculines denoting inanimate things, *most* other masculines, and *all* neuters take –s (–es) in the genitive, and, if monosyllabic, *may* take –e in the dative. Accusative = nominative.

2. *Some* masculines denoting living beings (especially those in –e) take –n (–en) in the genitive, dative, accusative, singular — and in the plural throughout.

3. Feminines remain unchanged in the singular.

Remember Name(n), –ens, etc.; Herzens, Herzen.

II. PLURAL.

die	Kaſten	Köpfe (Hände)	Häuſer	Blumen (Menſchen)
der	Kaſten	Köpfe	Häuſer	Blumen
den	Kaſten	Köpfen	Häuſern	Blumen
die	Kaſten	Köpfe	Häuſer	Blumen

DECLENSION OF PROPER NAMES

Schillers Werke	or	die Werke Schillers.
Des jungen Schillers Werke	but	die Werke des jungen Schiller.
König Rudolfs Macht	but	Die Macht des Königs Rudolf.

DECLENSION OF ADJECTIVES

1. Weak declension.

	M.	F.	N.		
Singular	-e	-e	-e	Plural	-en
	-en	-en	-en		-en
	-en	-en	-en		-en
	-en	-e	-e		-en

The weak declension of the adjective is to be used when {one of the articles, or / a pronominal adjective} *with a distinctive ending* precedes the attributive adjective, e.g. Unſeres neuen Hauſes, but Unſer neues Haus. Otherwise the strong endings are to be used.

2. Strong declension.

Singular	-er	-e	-es	Plural	-e
	-en	-er	-en		-er
	-em	-er	-em		-en
	-en	-e	-es		-e

The number of attributive adjectives has no influence upon the adjective declension — they are either *all weak* or *all strong.*

Predicate adjectives are not declined if they are in the positive or comparative degree. An uninflected superlative is never used as a predicate adjective.

Dieſer Sommer war warm, aber der vorige war noch wärmer.

Der Monat Auguſt iſt der wärmſte (or, am wärmſten).

Er hat ihn aufs wärmſte empfohlen = *very warmly* (no comparison being implied).

PRONOUNS

The relatives **der** and **welcher** are alike in meaning and use; but welcher has no genitive in modern German.

Wer as relative is used without antecedent (= *he who*).

Was as a relative is used:

a. without antecedent.

b. after a neuter demonstrative or indefinite pronoun.

c. after neuter adjectives (especially superlatives).

Adverbial Pronoun-Compounds

Instead of preposition + pronoun, referring to inanimate objects (sing. or plur.), compounds are used as follows:

a. Use **damit, danach, darin, darauf,** etc., for preposition + personal or demonstrative pronoun = *with it* (*that*), *after it* (*that*), *in it* (*that*), etc.

b. Use **womit, wonach, worin, worauf,** etc., for preposition + relative or interrogative pronoun.

Remember: The compounds *should* be used for the interrogative pronouns; they *should* be used for the personal and demonstrative pronouns; they *may* be used for the relative pronoun.

THE VERB

Auxiliary Verbs

Haben and **Sein.**

1. *All* transitive verbs use haben to form the perfect tenses.

2. Intransitive verbs denoting motion toward a place or a change of condition (ſterben, wachſen, etc.) use ſein.

3. With ſtehen, liegen, ſitzen, either haben or ſein is permissible, but haben is preferred. With ſein, bleiben, geſchehen, gelingen, only ſein is possible.

Werden.

With any form of werden denoting *future* or *conditional* action a dependent infinitive is necessary:

Er wird gehen.
Er würde gegangen ſein.

With any form of werden denoting *passive* action a dependent *perfect participle* is necessary:

Er wird gelobt.

N. B. { Er wird gelobt werden, / Er würde gelobt worden ſein, } where both the future or conditional idea and the passive are present.

Use of the Tenses

1. The present is often used instead of the future to denote certainty (usually in the near future): Ich komme morgen.

2. The future is often used instead of the present to denote probability: Er wird ſchon hier ſein, *I suppose he is here already.*

3. Facts that have started in the past, and continue in the present, are denoted by the present (Eng. perfect): Ich kenne ihn ſeit drei Jahren, *I have known him for three years.*

4. For isolated statements (especially in conversation) the perfect is preferred to the preterit.

Modal Auxiliaries

The modal auxiliaries denote —

I. *Ability:* **kann.**
II. *Intention:* **will.**
III. *Wish:* **möchte** (subj.).
IV. *Dislike:* **will nicht, mag nicht.**
V. *Compulsion:* **muß.**
VI. *Duty:* **ſoll.**
VII. *Permission:* **darf.**
VIII. *Prohibition:* **darf nicht.**
IX. *Possibility:* **kann, könnte, mag, möchte.**
X. *Probability:* **dürfte.**

The "weak" perfect participles of the modal auxiliaries (**gekonnt** etc.) are used if the main verb is understood: **Warum biſt du nicht gekommen? — Ich habe nicht gedurft.** — In connection with the main verb, the "strong participle" (= infinitive) is used: **Ich habe nicht kommen dürfen;** this "double infinitive" *always* stands last, even in dependent sentences: **Da ich nicht habe kommen dürfen, habe ich geſchrieben.** *He could* (*ought to* etc.) *have come* = **er hätte kommen können** (**ſollen, dürfen,** etc.).

The modal auxiliaries, and the verbs **ſehen, hören, laſſen, heißen** (= *command*), **fühlen** (and often **lernen, lehren, helfen, machen**), require simple infinitive (without **zu**).

Indirect Discourse and Clauses of Purpose

Use of the Subjunctive in indirect discourse (and clauses of purpose):

1. If the introductory verb stands in the present, use the indicative: Er ſagt, er kennt mich; Er läuft, damit er nicht zu ſpät kommt.

2. If the introductory verb does not stand in the present, use:

Subjunctive present or preterit, for a present of direct discourse.

Direct: Ich kann nicht kommen.

Indirect: Er ſagte, daß er nicht kommen könne (könnte).

Subjunctive perfect or pluperfect, for a preterit, perfect, or pluperfect of direct discourse.

Direct: Ich kam zu ſpät (bin, war . . . gekommen).

Indirect: Er ſagte, daß er zu ſpät gekommen ſei (wäre).

Subjunctive future, or present conditional, for a future (or present with future meaning) of direct discourse.

Direct: { Ich werde gleich kommen. / Ich komme gleich.

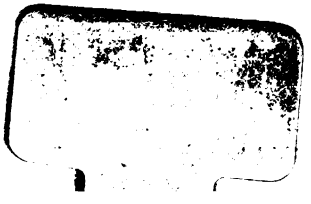
Indirect: Er ſagte, daß er gleich kommen werde (würde).

PREPOSITIONS

Accusative and Dative

An, auf, hinter, neben, in,
Über, unter, vor und zwiſchen
Stehen mit dem vierten Fall,
Wenn man fragen kann: **wohin?**
Mit dem dritten ſtehn ſie ſo,
Daß man nur kann fragen: **wo?**

Dative	Accusative	Genitive
aus, außer	durch	während
bei, mit	für	wegen
nach, ſeit	gegen	längs
von, zu	ohne	ſtatt
	um	trotz
Also as postpositive prepositions	wider	and the compounds of **halb** and **ſeits**: innerhalb, diesſeits, etc.
entgegen		
gegenüber		
zuwider		

SIGNS FOR CORRECTIONS

p.	= punctuation	*c.*	= case
sp.	= spelling	*g.*	= gender
w.	= wrong word	*m.*	= mood
(....)	= omit	*n.*	= number
∧	= an omission	*pn.*	= person
?	= unintelligible	*t.*	= tense
X	= very poor, rewrite	*v.*	= voice